

## Faith Based Services, Spirituality, and Aging

(See also Notes on [Hospice and Palliative Care](#))

There has been a long tradition of church-related support for older adults in the United States. As the elderly population has increased, church-based services to the elderly have re-focused, and expanded, and churches have partnered with social and health agencies.

Historically, the Older Americans Act has supported community and in-home services through a network of government agencies and non-profit service providers, many of which have been hosted by church-based organizations. Faith-based organizations provide congregate meals, transportation, home repair, companion, and other independent living support services. Other federal agencies support faith-based housing, social service, counseling and health service programs, academic investigation of (e.g.) the influence of religion and spirituality on health, and other aspects of the mind-body-spirit connection.

Recent enactment of the “Charitable Choice” section of the federal welfare reform law indicates Congressional interest in supporting faith-based organizations. In 2001, President Bush established a Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and issued an executive order to establish similar units in federal agencies. In January of 2002, Congress appropriated a \$30 million Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) to the Department of Health and Human Services. This is the “first appropriated federal funds...specifically targeted to assist ... grassroots organizations that are the focus of President Bush's faith-based and community initiative.”

The following Internet sites guide users to national and local, and denominational and inter-denominational organizations that offer services to the elderly. They provide links to information sources that describe faith-based programs, the relationship between spirituality and successful aging, and the results of government sponsored research.

- [Federal Government](#)
- [Interfaith Organizations](#)
- [Denominational Organizations](#)
- [Journals, Books, Bibliographies, and Reports](#)
- [Other Resources](#)

## Federal Government

### White House

#### **The White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives**

(U.S. White House)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/government/fbci/>

#### **Agency Responsibilities with Respect to Faith-Based and Community Initiatives – Executive Order – Press Release, January 29, 2001**

(U.S. White House)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/01/20010129-3.html>

#### **Rallying the Armies of Compassion**

(U.S. White House)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/reports/faithbased.html>

#### **Unlevel Playing Field: Barriers to Participation by Faith-Based and Community Organizations in Federal Social Service Programs**

(U.S. White House)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/08/20010816-3-report.pdf>

#### **Guidance to Faith-Based and Community Organizations on Partnering with the Federal Government**

(U.S. White House)

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/government/fbci/guidance\\_document.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/government/fbci/guidance_document.pdf)

### Legislation

#### **Title 42, Chapter 7, Sub Chapter IV, Part A, Section 604a – Services Provided by Charitable, Religious, or Private Organizations**

(Cornell University Law School)

[http://www4.law.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/htm\\_hl?DB=uscode42&STEMMER=en&WORDS=charit+&COLOUR=Red&STYLE=s&URL=/uscode/42/604a.html - muscat\\_highlighter\\_first\\_match](http://www4.law.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/htm_hl?DB=uscode42&STEMMER=en&WORDS=charit+&COLOUR=Red&STYLE=s&URL=/uscode/42/604a.html - muscat_highlighter_first_match)

### Department of Health and Human Services

#### **The Center for Faith-Based & Community Initiatives**

(U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services)

<http://www.hhs.gov/fbci/>

#### **HHS Fact Sheet: "HHS and the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative."**

(U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2001pres/01fsfaith-based.html>

### **The Faith-based and Communities Initiative**

(Administration for Children and Families)

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fbci/>

### **Faith Partnership Initiative**

(Bureau of Primary Health, Health Resources and Services Administration)

<http://bphc.hrsa.gov/faith/default.htm>

### **Other Federal Agencies**

#### **HUD's Center for Community and Interfaith Partnerships: Resources for Empowerment and Opportunity**

(U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development)

<http://www.hud.gov/empower.pdf>

#### **Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives**

(U.S. Department of Labor)

<http://www.dol.gov/cfbci/>

#### **Task Force for Faith-based and Community Initiatives**

(U.S. Department of Justice)

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fbci/>

### **Interfaith Organizations**

#### **Focus on the Family – Focus Over Fifty**

(Christian Association of PrimeTimers, Christian Association of Senior Adults)

<http://www.family.org/focusoverfifty/general/a0009667.html>

#### **Public-Private Partnerships and California's Faith Communities**

(Center for Religion and Civic Culture)

[http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/religion\\_online/welfare/](http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/religion_online/welfare/)

#### **Faith in Action**

(The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation)

<http://www.fiavolunteers.org/>

#### **Forum on Religion, Spirituality and Aging (FoRSA)**

(American Society on Aging)

<http://www.asaging.org/forsa.html>

#### **The National Interfaith Coalition on Aging**

(National Council on Aging)

<http://www.ncoa.org/content.cfm?sectionID=41>

#### **The Finishers Project**

<http://www.finishers.org/core.html>

**The Center for Gerontology, Spirituality and Faith**

(Sunny View Retirement Community)

<http://www.spirituality4aging.org/>

**Shepherd's Centers of America (SCA)**

<http://www.shepherdcenters.org/>

**Interfaith Health Program**

(Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University)

<http://www.ihpnet.org/>

**Interfaith Health Program Practice Models search on aging**

(Institute for Public Health Faith Collaborations)

[http://www.ihpnet.org/cgi-bin/Database\\_search/db\\_search.cgi?setup\\_file=models.setup](http://www.ihpnet.org/cgi-bin/Database_search/db_search.cgi?setup_file=models.setup)

**Programs for Older Adults [search “retirement living and disabilities”]**

(National Benevolent Association)

<http://www.nbacaes.org/>

**Rallying Points (A Last Acts Initiative)**

<http://rallyingpoints.org/index.asp>

**Denominational Organizations (National)**

Buddhist

**Reflections on Death, Buddhist Hospices, and HIV/AIDS**

(Buddha Dharma Education Association)

<http://www.buddhanet.net/bereaved.htm>

Christian

**Caring Congregations Linking Faith and Health**

(Caring Congregations)

<http://www.caringcongregations.org/>

**Aging – Chapter 10 of the Planning Manual of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod**

(Board of Human Care Ministry)

<http://humancare.lcms.org/DC/manual/m10.htm>

**Values-Based Programs for Aging and Chronically Ill Persons**

(Association of Brethren Caregivers)

<http://www.brethren.org/abc/oam/index.htm>

**Center on Aging - Older Adult Ministry**

(Methodist Church General Board of Discipleship)

<http://www.gbod.org/coa/default.asp>

### **A Time to Serve: Resources for Long Term Care**

(Catholic Health Association of the United States)

<http://www.chausa.org/longterm/longterm.asp>

### **The Episcopal Senior Ministries Website**

<http://www.esm.org/links.htm>

### **The Center for Aging, Religion and Spirituality (CARS)**

(Lutheran Seminary of St. Paul)

<http://www.luthersem.edu/cars/index.htm>

### **A Resource List for Older Adult Ministry**

(Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.))

<http://horeb.pcusa.org/olderadults/reslist.htm>

### **Older Adult Ministries**

(Mid-Atlantic Presbyterian Church)

<http://www.civic.bev.net/oam/>

### **Product List Search Page [search “aging”, “older adult”, and baby boomer”]**

(Discipleship Resources Worldwide)

<http://www.discipleshipresources.org/>

### **Jewish**

#### **Association of Jewish Aging Services**

<http://www.ajas.org/>

#### **Jewish Council for the Aging**

<http://www.jcagw.org/>

#### **Jewish Family and Children’s Services – Seniors Programs**

<http://www.jfcs.org/Services/Seniors/default.asp>

#### **Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for Aged**

<http://www.hebrewrehab.com/about2.htm>

### **Journals, Books, Bibliographies, and Reports**

#### **Journal of Religious Gerontology**

(Haworth Press)

<http://www.haworthpressinc.com/store/product.asp?sku=J078>

#### **Innovations in End-of-Life Care**

(Last Acts)

<http://www2.edc.org/lastacts/>

### **Charitable Choice Handbook for Ministry Leaders**

(University of Southern California)

[http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/religion\\_online/welfare/Sherman.pdf](http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/religion_online/welfare/Sherman.pdf)

### **Last Acts Statement on Diversity and End of Life Care**

(Last Acts)

<http://www.lastacts.org/files/publications/Diversity1.15.02.pdf>

### **Research on Religion and Aging - An Annotated Bibliography – Koenig**

(Greenwood Press)

[http://www.greenwood.com/books/BookDetail\\_pf.asp?pf=1&dept\\_id=1&sku=GR9427](http://www.greenwood.com/books/BookDetail_pf.asp?pf=1&dept_id=1&sku=GR9427)

### **Best Practices in Chaplaincy**

(National Chaplain Center – Department of Veteran's Affairs)

<http://www.chaplain.med.va.gov/Chaplain/page.cfm?pg=4>

### **Victims of Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Elder Abuse, Rape, Robbery, Assault, and Violent Death - A Manual For Clergy And Congregations - Special Edition for Military Chaplain**

(U.S. Department of Justice)

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/infores/clergy/welcome.html>

### **Spirituality and Aging**

(University of Missouri – Kansas City)

<http://iml.umkc.edu/casww/sa/Spirituality.htm>

### **Spirituality and Aging – Bibliography**

(University of Southern California)

[http://www.usc.edu/isd/locations/science/gerontology/MLA/mlabib\\_god.html](http://www.usc.edu/isd/locations/science/gerontology/MLA/mlabib_god.html)

### **The Use of Public Funds for Delivery of Faith-Based Human Services -**

A review of the research literature - The Roundtable on Religion and Social Welfare Policy – the Rockefeller Institute of Government 2002

(University of Southern California)

[http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/religion\\_online/welfare/roundtable.pdf](http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/religion_online/welfare/roundtable.pdf)

### **Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches- 2003**

(National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA)

<http://www.electronicchurch.org/2003/2003Prepub.htm>

## **Other Resources**

### **Faith and Community Based Organizations**

(The Finance Project)

<http://www.financeprojectinfo.org/FCBO/index2.asp>

### **Spirituality in Palliative Care (November/December 2002)**

(Geriatric Times)

<http://www.geriatrictimes.com/g021225.html>

**Faith in Action - Replication of the Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Program**

(Robert Wood Johnson Foundation)

<http://rwjf.org/reports/anthologies/1998chap7.htm>

**Texas Workforce - Charitable Choice, Faith-Based and Community-Based Services**

(Texas State Government)

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/chchoice/chchoice.html>

**Charitable Choice Resources**

(Center for Public Justice)

[http://www.cpublicjustice.org/stories/storyReader\\$351](http://www.cpublicjustice.org/stories/storyReader$351)

**International Center for the Integration of Health and Spirituality**

<http://www.nihr.org/index.cfm>

**National Hispanic Religious Partnership for Community Health-Data Bank Project**

<http://www.nhrpch.org/states.html>

**Advocate Health Care - Office of Community Ministry office**

<http://www.advocatehealth.com/system/about/community/faith/ministry/>

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**Center for Communication and Consumer Services**

U.S. Administration on Aging

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